Infuriated at the casual response to my wife's letter to LBJ, I wrote a letter to Vinson, spelling out the items that bothered me..... He replied. (I found item number ONE apalling!)

NOTE: Page one is an original, typed, letter. Page two is a mimeographed "form-letter". (Maybe I'm not the only one writing...?)

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Department of Justice
Washington 20530

October 10, 1966

[redacted]

Dear Mr. [redacted]

I am in receipt of your letter of September 19, 1966 and must express regret in your considered dissatisfaction with my response to your wife's recent suggestion that the public interest would be served by reconvening the Warren Commission accompanied by a clarification of certain of its findings. I repeat that I am aware of no present plans to reopen the Commission's inquiry.

Indeed, at the present time only a small portion of the total amount of material collected by the Commission remains unavailable to the public. The material that is being withheld falls into three principal categories.

1. Defense information that is classified TOP SECRET, SECRET, or CONFIDENTIAL because its unauthorized disclosure would cause grave damage to the Nation, would jeopardize the international relations of the country, or would prejudice our defense.

2. Information, the release of which is barred by express statute, such as information derived from internal revenue (income) tax returns.

3. Information, the release of which would prejudice the outcome of the trial of Jack Ruby.

The material withheld pending the termination of the Ruby case will be released as soon as that case is completed. In addition, provision has been made for periodic reviews of all other Commission material which has not been released for public inspection until all such material is made available to the public.

You may be interested to know that Mr. Mark Lane appeared as a withness before the Commission on two different occasions and thus had ample opportunity to disclose to appropriate officials any and all information which he had in his possession.

Your confidence in writing is appreciated.

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General